

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 07753 310940Z
ACTION NODS-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3218

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 7753

NODIS/CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3 AND 4
TAGS: PGOV US KS
SUBJ: KIM DONG-JO RESPONSE TO QUESTIONAIRES FROM SENATE AND HOUSE

1. WE (CLARK, BREWSTER, AND I) HAVE CONTINUED OUR EFFORTS OVER THE PAST TWO WEEKS TO KEEP ALL ROKG OFFICIALS CONCERNED FULLY AWARE OF WHAT WE EXPECT FROM KIM DONG-JO IN TERMS OF FULL AND FRANK ANSWERS TO THE CONGRESSIONAL QUESTIONNAIRES. WE HAVE BRACED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, BLUE HOUSE, KCIA, AND OTHERS. IN ADDITION, WE HAD ACCESS TO AN INFORMAL, PERSONAL CHANNEL TO KIM DONG-JO WHICH WAS USED WITH VERY GOOD EFFECT.

2. EARLY THIS WEEK WE BEGAN TO NAG ALL OF OUR COUNTERPARTS, AND INDIRECTLY KIM DONG-JO, FOR EARLY ACTION. ALL SOURCES WERE CONSISTENT IN THEIR RESPONSES AND WE EXPECT REPLY IN ABOUT A WEEK TO TEN DAYS.

3. THERE IS SOME INDICATION THAT KIM DONG-JO IS RETHINKING HIS INSISTENCE THAT ANSWERS TO US BE ONLY IN KOREAN. THOSE PRESSING HIM TO REVIEW THE REPLY IN ENGLISH, ON THE GROUNDS THAT NO ONE IN THE U.S. WILL SEE THE KOREAN TEXT, ARE HAVING AN EFFECT. WE NOW MAY RECEIVE A KOREAN VERSION AND AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION.

4. AS WE APPROACH RECEIPT OF KIM DONG-JO'S RESPONSES,
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I AGAIN URGE CARE IN OUR TREATMENT OF HIS INITIAL EFFORT. WE MUST ASSUME, UNTIL EVENTS PROVE US WRONG, THAT THE FIRST REPLY WILL LEAVE UNCLEAR AREAS. IF WE HOPE TO DRAW FURTHER INFORMATION, IT IS MOST IMPORTANT TO RESIST EITHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE RECRIMINATION. WE SHOULD RESPOND COOLY THROUGH THE CHANNEL ALREADY ESTABLISHED FOR CLARIFICATION. ONLY AFTER WE

HAVE DRAWN ALL POSSIBLE INFORMATION FROM THE EXCHANGE
SHOULD WE RISK CATEGORIZATION OF KIM DONG-JO'S
PERFORMANCE. TO DO SO NOW COULD RING DOWN THE CURTAIN
BEFORE THE FAT LADY HAS SUNG.
GLEYSTEN

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Message Attributes

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